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ACCOUNT

OF THE

Receipts and Expenditures

OF THE

TOWN OF MONT-VERNON,

TOGETHER WITH

THE SCHOOL REPORT,

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1871.

CABINET PRESS—AMHERST.

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SELCTMEN OF MONT VERNON IN ACCOUNT WITH
SAID TOWN.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| DR.—To cash in Treasury Feb. 28, 1870, | \$1,873 77 |
| " Amount of Taxes assessed | 5,111 84 |
| " Cash received from State | 519 78 |
| " Cash received from sale of Town Farm property, less expenses, | 3,690 44 |
| " Cash received from sale of lots in cemetery | 8 50 |
| " Cash received from liquor agent | 60 00 |
| | _____ |
| | \$11,264 33 |

CR.—By Cash paid out as follows :

| | |
|--|------------|
| State Tax \$1,290 00 ; County Tax \$406 87 ; | \$1,696 87 |
| E. S. Heald's note 529 ; H. A. & S. Clark's notes 477 07 ; | 1,006 07 |
| M. Morgan's note 56 21 ; W. G. Bruce's note 520 70 ; | 576 91 |
| Samuel Jones' note 359 80 ; W. O. Lamson's note 566 ; | 925 80 |
| Nancy H. Fowle's note 1,050 ; Langdon Smith's 556 51 ; | 1,606 51 |
| Interest on sundry notes | 420 93 |
| Alfred Fisher, damage done sled on highway | 15 00 |
| George W. Royleigh, damage on highway | 4 00 |
| H. O. Dudley, " " " | 5 00 |
| Support of Paupers | 199 99 |
| S. G. Dearborn, medical services to poor in 1867 | 3 75 |
| Drs. Bunton and Hinds, report of births and deaths, 1870 | 3 50 |
| P. F. Pike, repairing gate to grave yard | 4 46 |
| Digging graves and commission on lots | 22 63 |
| J. Smith tolling bell 5 00 ; M. G. Rotch watering place 3 00 ; | 8 00 |
| Expense of hearse, repairs of hearse-house, and runners | 433 65 |
| A. Travis and J. H. A. Bruce, use of land for winter road | 5 00 |
| Expense of discontinuing old Turnpike, except land damage | 57 80 |
| C. Green, fencing up old Turnpike | 5 00 |
| Printing Reports 1870, 14 00 ; Books and Stationery 11 80 ; | 25 30 |
| Constable 1869 and 1870, 4 00 ; Town Treasurer 20 00 ; | 24 00 |
| Town Clerk 20 00 ; Collector 65 00 ; | 85 00 |
| A. Travis, Moderator & Auditor 3 50 ; G. E. Dean, Aud. 150 ; | 5 00 |

EXTRA REPAIRS ON HIGHWAY.

| | |
|--|-------|
| District No. 1—12 34 ; No. 4—29 30 ; No. 7—2 00 ; No. 9— 1 05 ; No. 10—22 00 ; No. 12—10 00 ; No. 15—21 86 ; No. 16—0 62 ; | 99 17 |
|--|-------|

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Abatement of taxes 1867, 1868, 1869 and 1870, | 34 37 |
| Over tax " " " " | 32 87 67 24 |
| | _____ |
| | \$7,306 58 |

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Amount brought up | \$7,306 58 |
| SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS. | |

| | |
|---|--------|
| Centre District, 338 21 ; South 136 00 ; East 89 55 ; North 80 11 ; West 52 76 ; Amherst 20 81 ; Superintending School Committee 33 00 ; extra services in East District 5 00 ; | 755 44 |
|---|--------|

BREAKING ROADS IN 1869 AND 1870.

| | |
|--|--------|
| District No. 2, 18.30 ; No. 3, 17.00 ; No. 4, 19.95 ; No. 5, 39.86 ; No. 6, 27.42 ; No. 7, 13.87 ; No. 8, 27.15 ; No. 9, 21.45 ; No. 10, 31.38 ; No. 11, 29.25 ; No. 12, 26.43 ; No. 13, 65.50 ; No. 14, 11.50 ; No. 15, 8.89 ; No. 16, 26.09 ; No. 17, 27.54 ; | 411 58 |
| Non-Resident Highway Receipts | 73 00 |

SELECTMEN'S SERVICES.

| | |
|--|--------|
| H. H. Trow 62 00 ; C. J. Smith 62 00 ; D. R. Baker 50 00 ; | 174 00 |
|--|--------|

NOTES AGAINST THE TOWN

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Wm. Bruce 1037 68 ; P. Smith 1430 34 ; E. Upton 100 50 ; Literary Fund 150 70 ; A. W. Bragg 1353 43 ; J. Smith 461 52 ; E. Batchelder 1348 32 ; H. E. Kittredge 104 50 ; C. Green 530 05 ; C. Kendall 133 37 ; J. Underwood 146 45 ; A. Upton 337 08 ; G. G. Batchelder 61 80 ; R. D. Upton 222 79 ; A. Wilkins 685 39 ; B. Crosby 566 50 ; B. Trow 262 36 ; C. Gray 717 94 ; J. Perkins 204. Total— | 10,854 72 |
|--|-----------|

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Whole amount of claims against the Town | \$19,575 32 |
| Amount of Dr. from second page | 11,264 33 |
| Balance against the Town | \$8,310 99 |

NOTE.—Among the extraordinary expenses of the past year will be noticed the outlay of \$433 65 connected with the purchase of a Town hearse.

Respectfully submitted—

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------|
| H. H. TROW, | } | Selectmen |
| CHAS. J. SMITH, | | of |
| D. R. BAKER, | Mont Vernon. | |

FEB. 25, 1871.—We have this day examined the Selectmen's account with said Town, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| GEORGE E. DEAN, | } | Auditors. |
| ALONZO TRAVIS, | | |

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of the Town of Mont Vernon submits the following Report :

| | |
|---|-------------|
| DR—To cash in the Treasury, March, 1870, | \$1,260 77 |
| Note for uncollected taxes for 1868, | 38 00 |
| " " " " 1869, | 575 00 |
| Literary Fund Note | 150 70 |
| Money received from sale of Poor Farm | 2,532 13 |
| " the State | 519 78 |
| " of Peter F. Pike for lots sold in Cemetery | 8 50 |
| " from Nath'l Bruce, esq., Liquor Agent, | 60 00 |
| " " " sale of Hearse | 13 50 |
| M. F. Crosby's two notes and interest | 1,050 00 |
| John O'Brien's note and interest | 75 96 |
| David J. Herlehy's note | 32 35 |
| Cash received of Collector for 1870 | 4,311 84 |
| Note for uncollected taxes for 1870 | 800 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$11,428 53 |

CR—By paying the following :

| | |
|--|-------------|
| State Tax | \$1,290 00 |
| County Tax | 406 87 |
| Literary Fund note | 150 70 |
| Note for uncollected taxes for 1868 and 1869 | 51 96 |
| M. F. Crosby's two notes and interest | 1,050 00 |
| John O'Brien's note and interest | 75 96 |
| David J. Herlehy's note | 32 35 |
| Paying 100 orders of the Selectmen | 7,023 74 |
| Note for uncollected taxes for 1870 | 800 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Whole amount of Receipts, | \$11,428 53 |
| " " Bills Paid, | 10,881 58 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance in the Treasury, | \$546 95 |

All of which is submitted—

D. R. BAKER, TOWN TREASURER.

FEB. 25, 1871.—This day examined the Treasurer's report and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

GEORGE E. DEAN, }
ALONZO TRAVIS, } Auditors.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR

From Feb. 21, 1870, to Feb. 21, 1871.

DR.—To cash received as follows :

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| From County | \$53 40 |
| Town Treasurer | 199 99—253 39 |

CR.—By cash paid out as follows :

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Clothing for Levi Averill | \$12 71 |
| Boots " " " and repairing same | 6 10 |
| T. H. Richardson and Ira Hill for Groceries and Provisions for Dennis Cota | \$8 15 |
| Dr. S. Bunton for Medical Services to D. Cota | 3 00 |
| Other expenses on account of D. Cota | 3 00 |
| Expenses of journey to Nashua and express on money sent | 1 68 |
| W. Williams for board of Sally Holt from Feb. 20th, 1870, to Feb. 20th, 1871, | 52 00 |
| W. Williams for board of Levi Averill from Feb. 20th, 1870, to Feb. 20th, 1871, | 53 25 |
| Board of transient paupers | 2 50 |
| For board of Lucy J. Wallace at Asylum from Feb. 1st, 1870, to Feb. 1st, 1871, | 91 00 |
| Overseer's services | 20 00—253 39 |
| Due from County | 4 00— 4 00 |

There are 3 paupers in charge of the Town : Levi Averill, Lucy J. Wallace and Sally Holt. The money expended for Dennis Cota (county pauper) is included in the amount (\$53.40) received from the County.

Respectfully submitted—

CHAS. J. SMITH, OVERSEER OF POOR.

FEBRUARY 25, 1871.—Examined the above account and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

GEORGE E. DEAN, }
ALONZO TRAVIS, } AUDITORS.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

At our last annual meeting it was voted to raise \$700 for the support of schools for the current year. During the year the sum of \$717.44 has been drawn from the Town Treasury and paid to the several Districts. The Legislature at its last session advanced the amount required to be raised for the support of Schools from \$250 to \$350, on each dollar of a town or city's proportion of the State tax. Under this law Mont Vernon must assess about \$750 for school purposes the ensuing year. While our school tax is being increased the number of scholars is diminishing. In the South District, the second in point of wealth, only 13 have attended school during the past year. In 1860 the whole number of pupils in this District was 44 ; in 1863, 38 ; in 1865, 33 ; in 1867, 28. While the number receiving instruction here has been thus lessened, the money appropriated has increased 40 per cent. since 1860.— It may well be debated whether the improvement of our schools advances in the same ratio with the expenditure. Our people are keenly sensitive in relation to taxation. My experience as assessor here has abundantly demonstrated this fact.— It is hoped that this larger requisition for schools will awaken more interest and more vigilant attention to them. It is right that the tax payers should demand a *quid pro quo* for this large outlay. If the money is profitably expended the amount is none too great. It behooves every tax payer to watch its application with jealous care, so that every dollar be made available for those who are entitled to its benefit. In conformity to precedent I proceed to notice the several schools :

DISTRICT No. 1.—CENTRE.—Miss S. L. Cochrane was engaged to teach for the summer term, but was compelled by illness to leave at the end of the first week, much to the regret of all interested. Miss H. M. Jameson, of Dunbarton, was then employed. She was an experienced teacher and acquitted herself generally to the acceptance of the District, and was again employed for the fall term. The order of the school was hardly equal to that secured last year, but progress was made and she administered her trust with fair success.

Miss Marianne Waite, also from Dunbarton, had charge of this school for the winter term. Miss W. was painstaking and thorough in her instruction, and improved the discipline of her school. She was self-reliant and conscientious, making no special effort to exhibit her school, trusting to the discernment and fidelity of the Committee to ascertain the progress of her pu-

pils. She closed her engagement with the respect and good will of the children and the appproval of the parents and Superintendent.

No. 2.—SOUTH.—Miss Letticia M. Adams, of New Boston, teacher of the summer term. This school was very small, only 6 attending, which placed the teacher at disadvantage.—The interest and vitality was proportionate to the number.—However, the teacher endeavored to perform her duty faithfully and the younger scholars learned well. Miss Annah E. Adams of Milford, teacher, winter term. Miss A. is full of energy and enthusiasm, a *live* teacher and especially adapted to young scholars, whom she taught most skilfully. Faithful and earnest, with correct scholarship and an excellent capacity to illustrate clearly, the proficiency of her school of 14 scholars satisfied the Committee that her services were highly profitable to the District. If any fault could be alleged it would be, that the order of the school was a little below the highest standard.

DISTRICT No. 3.—EAST.—Miss Lenora A. Smith taught the summer school. Miss S. has had uniform success wherever she has taught. She has quiet control both of herself and the school, and is a good scholar and a faithful teacher. Miss Smith declining to teach for the winter, the Committee sought the servieses of Lucie S. Stiles, also a resident of the District, and she assumed charge of the school. Miss S. is only 16 years of age, but is a well-trained scholar and had taught several terms of school acceptably. The situation was such *here* that a high degree of success would be unattainable by any teacher not endowed with superhuman attributes. Former feuds and antipathies, which time was supposed to have extinguished, were at once revived. On the first day of the school the Prudential Committee was visited and requested to close it forthwith. Within two weeks some boys older than the teacher, representing disaffected parents, openly challenged her right to teach, and resisted her attempt to govern the school.—The Superintending Committee was summoned, and without bias or predilection for either party gave to all a candid and patient audience. After a careful investigation, in three special visits to the District, he decided it to be his duty to continue the school, and has never doubted the propriety of his decision. Six of the twenty-one pupils registered as having attended two weeks withdrew, and with the remaining five-sevenths of her original number, she did as well as circumstances permitted. That a larger measure of success did not attend her labors is due to no deficiency on her part. She is resolute, dignified, and a fine scholar, and with a fair field and added ex-

perience will prove herself a valuable teacher. Her engagement in her home district was unfortunate, as the animosity of a few precluded her success. Committees should be cautious in procuring teachers resident within the district. In such cases the wishes of the District should be consulted, and any prejudice regarded, as the violent antipathies of one or two families greatly diminishes, if it does not destroy the usefulness of a teacher. The school was orderly and the examination creditable to those that remained. Suggestion was made to the Committee, by parents, of too much drill for examination. This is not the better way, yet it is true, that the continuous drilling of the pupil by a correct teacher advances the scholar in that branch of learning, though the specific end be exceptionable.

DISTRICT. No 4.—NORTH.—Miss Emma F. Bailey of New Boston, taught both terms of this school. Her good reputation as a teacher induced the Committee to obtain her services, with a result highly satisfactory to all concerned. Quiet, self-possessed and vigilant, she maintained the best of discipline without noise, or fuss. Her instruction was careful and correct, her school honored and loved her, and made good proficiency. The people of this District are just, kind and considerate in their treatment of teachers. And this sensible course generally secures them a good teacher and a first-class school.

DISTRICT No. 5.—WEST.—Miss Nellie O. Lamson taught both terms of this school. She is a lively, active teacher, and readily adapts herself to her pupils. The same tact at governing and interesting the children, as noticed last year was again manifested, and good progress was made.

STATISTICS.

| District. | Length of Schools. | Wages. | Tot'l lat. | Aver. |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------|------------|-------|
| Centre District | Summer Term 11 weeks | 30 00 | 21 | 16 |
| | Fall " 10 " | 28 00 | 23 | 18 |
| | Winter " 13 " | 30 00 | 30 | 22 |
| South District | Summer " 8 " | 24 00 | 7 | 6 |
| | Winter " 11 " | 26 00 | 13 | 11 |
| East District | Summer " 8 " | 18 00 | 21 | 18 |
| | Winter " 9 " | 21 00 | 21 | 16 |
| North District | Summer " 10 " | 28 00 | 19 | 17 |
| | Winter " 11 " | 26 00 | 22 | 17 |
| West District | Summer " 7 " | 15 00 | 6 | 5 |
| | Fall " 7 " | 15 00 | 13 | 10 |

Amount of money raised by the town, \$688.58. Literary Fund divided among the schools, \$28.86. Amount allotted Centre District, \$138.21; South, \$136.00; East, \$89.55; North, 80.11; West, \$52.76; Amherst, \$20.81.

C. J. SMITH, *Superintending School Com.*